

REMARKS

In the Office Action dated September 9, 2004, claims 1-38 were rejected. Claims 2, 33, and 37 are canceled without prejudice. Claims 1, 3-32, 34-36, and 38 are now pending in the application. In view of the remarks and amendments, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the application.

Claims 1-38 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 for being directed to non-statutory subject matter. Applicant amended Claims 1, 15, 23, 31, 36, and 38 to more clearly show that these claims embody statutory subject matter as required under 35 U.S.C. 101. Claims 2-14 depend directly or indirectly on allowable Claim 1; Claims 16-22 depend directly or indirectly on allowable Claim 15; Claims 24-30 depend directly or indirectly on allowable Claim 23; and Claims 32-35 depend directly or indirectly on allowable Claim 31. Therefore, Claims 2-14, 16-22, 24-30, and 32-35 are also allowable.

Claims 1-8, 13, and 15-38 were rejected under U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,970,475 (hereinafter Barnes). Applicant respectfully disagrees in part and traverses in part.

Barnes teaches an electronic purchasing/invoicing/settlements system that is intended to meet the purchasing requirements of a large number of employees who have recurrent needs to order goods and/or services. (Barnes, col. 6, lines 5-30)

Barnes further teaches the use of purchasing profiles to restrict the amount of purchases made by the employees. Further, employees are restricted in accessing and changing the purchasing profiles. (Barnes, col. 16, lines 35-48)

Claims 1, 15, 23, 31, 36 and 38 include, in part, the limitation of controlling content wherein the content is audio/visual content. Although the Barnes teaches controlling the access to various profile information for other users and

controlling the amount of spending allowed for particular users, Barnes fails to teach controlling access to audio/visual content such as movies, pictures, and the like. The amendment to Claims 1, 15, 23, 31, 36 and 38 do not include new matter. Sufficient support for these amendments are found in paragraphs [0068], [0072], [0073], and [0078].

Therefore, Claims 1, 15, 23, 31, 36 and 38 are in a condition for allowance. In addition, Claims 3-14 depend directly or indirectly on Claim 1; Claims 16-22 depend directly or indirectly on Claim 15; Claims 24-30 depend directly or indirectly on Claim 23; and Claims 32 and 34-35 depend directly or indirectly on Claim 31. Therefore Claims 3-14, 16-22, 24-30, 32, and 34-35 are patentable for at least the same reasons discussed above.

Claims 9-11 were rejected under U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Barnes. Claims 9-11 depend directly or indirectly on Claim 1 and are therefore patentable for at least the same reasons discussed above.

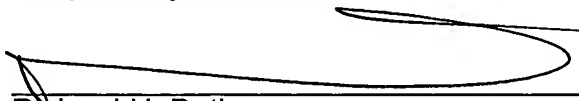
Claim 14 was rejected under U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Barnes in view of US Patent No. 6,006,200. Claim 14 depends directly or indirectly on Claim 1 and is therefore patentable for at least the same reasons discussed above.

In view of the foregoing remarks and amendments, Applicant respectfully submits that all pending claims are in condition for allowance. Such allowance is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner finds any remaining impediment to the prompt allowance of these claims that could be clarified with a telephone conference, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Richard H. Butler at (408) 223-9763.

Respectfully submitted,

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